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TITLE: Communication system employing prepaid card.

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INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME COUNTRY

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ABSTRACT:

<CHG DATE=19950128 STATUS=O> A communication system enables users to purchase

various articles of merchandise and services such as data supply services, and to get refunds through communication lines such as telephone lines and prepaid cards. The communication system comprises a prepaid card 1, a communication terminal 2, and a host computer. The prepaid card has its own identification data. The communication terminal reads data stored in the prepaid card, and when the user enters necessary data into the communication terminal, a communication starting command is produced, enabling the communication terminal

to transmit data to the host computer over the communication line. The host computer processes the transmitted data, instructs the communication terminal to rewrite data stored in the prepaid card, instructs the delivery of a purchased article, and/or gives the user any of various data services.

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